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COUNTRY	USSR (Black Sea)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Ports of Batumi, Tuapse, and Poti	DATE DISTR.	8 November 1955
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT	
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	
DATE ACQUIRED			

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Port of Batumi

- Four fast subchasers similar to vessels of the ARTILLERIST and KRONSTADT Classes were moored in the port. They were radar-equipped and were armed with 76 mm guns and depth charges.
- A small naval yard was located on the right as one entered the port. Repair work was done here, and vessels up to 1,000 tons could be constructed.

Port of Tuapse

- There were two shipyards at Tuapse. In the eastern part of the port, there was a small industrial shipyard which repaired fishing vessels and constructed pontoons, barges, and oil lighters suitable for river navigation.
- In the western part of the port, there was a naval shipyard.¹ Equipment at the yard was limited. No dry docks or floating dry docks were in existence or under construction. There was a building slip, on which two 1,500-ton river steamboats were under construction, one behind the other. These vessels had such large superstructures that from a distance it looked as if the hull of a small aircraft carrier were under construction. Work was proceeding slowly, chiefly because of shortage of labor.
- The quay was being extended on either side of the shipyard just described, and cement mixers and other pieces of construction machinery were in operation. Work was also in progress to repair war damage.
- Tuapse, three submarines, probably SHCH Class were moored in the port. Each submarine was about 70 meters long. There were also three modern destroyers in the port. The submarines were constantly performing exercises and engaging in combined operations with

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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aircraft, anti-submarine motor patrol vessels, coastal searchlight units,
and mobile ground radar units.

25X1

Naval Maneuvers near Poti

25X1

8. [redacted] a naval formation consisting of one light
cruiser, three destroyers, two small submarines, and a group of motor patrol
vessels were observed undergoing maneuvers. The motor patrol vessels appeared
to be in contact with a submerged submarine.

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